

Today, I am proud to congratulate Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated on the historic milestone of 100 years of serving local and international communities. On January 5, 1911, Kappa Alpha Psi Fraternity, Incorporated (KAPΣ) was founded by ten distinguished, God-fearing, high achieving, young African-American gentlemen who had the vision to foster leadership through fraternal brotherhood and Christian ideals on the campus of Indiana University in Bloomington, Indiana. These men had the determination to defy customs in pursuit of a college education and professional careers during an oppressive time in American history for African-Americans. Kappa Alpha Psi currently yields a membership of over 150,000 college trained men on more than 360 university campuses, with alumni chapters located in 347 cities, and has representation in five foreign nations.

Since its inception, the brothers of Kappa Alpha Psi have fostered relentless support to our country. Through programs such as Kappa League and National Guide Right, the fraternity has provided thousands of at-risk youth in communities throughout the nation with role models, mentors, and scholarships for higher education, which in return encourages our youth to make positive contributions to society through leadership and service. Kappa Alpha Psi holds an annual Holiday Food Drive to provide citizens of underserved communities with food, clothing, and toys throughout the United States. The men of Kappa Alpha Psi also volunteer through hands-on partnerships with organizations such as Habitat for Humanity, St. Jude Children's Research Hospital (Memphis), and many more.

On any given day you can see the notable accomplishments from the Kappa Alpha Psi brotherhood in Congress. Each day, as members, we strive to ensure that our brotherhood continues to exemplify achievement in every field of human endeavor. Kappa Alpha Psi sponsors events such as "Kappas on Capitol Hill" to increase member awareness about the political process as well as an undergraduate leadership institute to enhance the skills and abilities for the fraternity's top student leaders.

In 1954, I made one of the best decisions of my life; I joined the noble clan of Kappa Alpha Psi, crossing the sands with Laurel Wreath holder Dr. W.H. Greene. Since that wondrous time, I have enjoyed 56 years of involvement with our Bond. I am awed and indebted to all of our Brothers. For us to celebrate 100 years is a crowning achievement. I am extremely proud to be a part of such a distinguished brotherhood that continuously contributes to the improvement of society. Again, I say congratulations to my brothers of Kappa Alpha Psi for 100 steadfast years of serving local communities and elevating the lives of collegiate men throughout our great nation.